IPEA
EPO
D-80298 Munich
Germany

12 September 2005

Dear Sirs

PCT/GB2004/002711
Our ref: Path Remap (PCT)

Thank you for the Written Opinion of the ISA. The Written Opinion cites the following against the independent claims:

      D1   EP 122647

The applicant files replacement pages as follows:

1- 15 to replace pages 1 – 15 as originally filed.

Triplicate replacement pages are attached, together with one set of pages marked to show all changes.

Amended Claim 1 reads (with new text highlighted)

1.   A method of enabling an application, running on an operating system with a first directory hierarchy, to access files stored on a removable storage medium, in which the following steps occur:

    (a)   the application sends a file request with a path that conforms to the first directory hierarchy; and

    (b)   the file system starts a search for the file from a location within the second directory hierarchy that is different from the start location defined by the file request.

This feature was originally disclosed in the final section of the Detailed Description, titled 'Mapping without using string concatenation or manipulation'. It is a special example of

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how the 'file request is translated to an equivalent path that conforms to the second directory hierarchy', as defined in original Claim 1.

The text has been amended to make it clear that the present invention does not extend string substitution; **D1** is however restricted to string substitution and nowhere discloses or suggests the invention as now defined.

Original Claim 12 has now been deleted.

In the light of the amendments and arguments, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Langley